

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1,8, and 10 have been amended herein. Claims 7 and 13-20 have been canceled. Claims 21-29 have been added. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for identifying characteristics of image media loaded into an image-forming device, comprising:

providing image media, said image media being contained within a package, said package having a bar code on a surface of said package containing information about said image media;

sensing information encoded in said bar code with a bar code reader located external to a housing of the image-forming device;

~~modifying settings for said image forming device based on said bar code information reading said bar code information with an image-forming device controller and updating the image-forming device settings upon activation or resetting of the image-forming device;~~ and

assigning said image-forming device settings to an image media tray in said image-forming device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein sensing information encoded in said bar code comprises passing said bar code across a face of a bar code reader.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein sensing information encoded in said bar code comprises passing said bar code across a face of a bar code reader located on an exterior surface of said image-forming device housing.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein sensing information encoded in said bar code comprises passing said bar code across a face of a bar code reader that is located peripheral to and in communication with said image-forming device.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein sensing information encoded in said bar code comprises sensing image media characteristics and attributes describing type of image media contained in said package.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein assigning said image-forming device settings to an image media tray comprises assigning image-forming device settings regarding media material, size, shape, material composition, color, weight, texture, roughness, resistivity, thickness, stiffness, grain direction, chemical composition, or acidity of said image media.

Cancel claim 7

8. (Currently amended) A method for identifying characteristics of image media loaded into an image-forming device, comprising:

providing image media, said image media being contained within a package, said package having a bar code on a surface of said package containing information about said image media;

sensing information encoded in said bar code with a bar code reader located external to a housing of the image-forming device;

~~The method of claim 1, wherein modifying settings for said image-forming device comprises reading said bar code information with an image-forming device controller and updating the image-forming device settings when said media tray is opened or changed and~~

assigning said image-forming device settings to an image media tray in said image-forming device.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing said image media comprises providing printer paper, photocopy paper, or transparencies.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said image-transfer forming device comprises a printer, a photocopy machine, a facsimile machine, or a scanner.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting a user to pass said the bar code over said bar code reader when said image-forming device senses an open tray.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising accessing information regarding various image media from other databases, networks, or computers.

Cancel claims 13-20.

21. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein sensing information encoded in said bar code comprises passing said bar code across a face of a bar code reader.

22. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein sensing information encoded in said bar code comprises passing said bar code across a face of a bar code reader located on an exterior surface of said image-forming device housing.

23. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein sensing information encoded in said bar code comprises passing said bar code across a face of a bar code reader that is located peripheral to and in communication with said image-forming device.

24. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein assigning said image-forming device settings to an image media tray comprises assigning image-forming device settings regarding media material, size, shape, material composition, color, weight, texture, roughness, resistivity, thickness, stiffness, grain direction, chemical composition, or acidity of said image media.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein providing said image media comprises providing printer paper, photocopy paper, or transparencies.

26. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein said image-transfer forming device comprises a printer, a photocopy machine, a facsimile machine, or a scanner.

27. (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising prompting a user to pass said the bar code over said bar code reader when said image-forming device senses an open tray.

28. (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising accessing information regarding various image media from other databases, networks, or computers.

29. (New) A method for identifying characteristics of image media loaded into an image-forming device, comprising:

providing image media, said image media being contained within a package, said package having a bar code on a surface of said package containing information about said image media;

sensing information encoded in said bar code with a bar code reader located external to a housing of the image-forming device;

modifying settings for said image-forming device based on said bar code information; and

assigning said image-forming device settings to an image media tray in said image-forming device; and

prompting a user to pass said the bar code over said bar code reader when said image-forming device senses an open tray.